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STAFF REPORT**REFUSE DISPOSAL SITE
MONROE, MICHIGAN****September 6, 1968**

On August 5, 1968 Dick Bissell and Bill Walden of Geological Survey Division, and the writer inspected an abandoned limestone quarry located on the west side of Dixie Highway between the N.Y.C. Railroad tracks and Spaulding Road. The City of Monroe is interested in using the quarry for a refuse disposal site.

The quarry is approximately 500 feet in diameter and the vertical sides extend some 30 feet above the quarry floor. The central portion was somewhat deeper as it was filled with water. The quarry walls are comprised of limestone layers and undoubtedly are very porous. The head waters of two county drains (Stone Crusher and Dubois) are located within close proximity of the quarry and very likely receive flow from the same ground water table as that supplying water to the quarry.

According to Mr. Leonard Lois, Monroe City Director, the type of refuse that would be deposited at the site includes domestic and industrial garbage and rubbish. He was also interested in the possibility of sealing the quarry if the present situation constitutes a threat to the ground water quality. He further informed the writer that due to it being a safety hazard the quarry has been pumped down to a very low level in an effort to discourage swimmers. Subsequent observations have indicated a very slow refill rate.

Mr. Akers, Monroe County Engineer, was also contacted on this matter and informed the writer that he denied the use of the quarry for refuse disposal some time ago. He also stated that the normal water level in the quarry was within 6 feet of the top, and laboratory analyses of the quarry water indicated it to be the same quality as the surrounding ground water. In essence, he was very much against using it as a refuse disposal site.

Due to the permeability of limestone and the fact that it affords very little, if any, filtering action, it is the writer's opinion that the quarry is an extremely poor site for refuse disposal. The possibility of sealing the quarry also appears unfeasible both from a practical and economical viewpoint. Even though the surrounding homes are serviced with city water the proposed operation would constitute a serious threat to the existing ground waters in the area.

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